

WELCOME!

This event will start shortly. In the meantime, visit us at OhioFamiliesEngage.osu.edu



FOURTH ANNUAL

Ohio Family Engagement — LEADERSHIP SUMMIT —



Setting the Table Together:
JOY and
POWER in
PARTNERSHIPS

SEPTEMBER 22,
2023

Hosted by the Ohio Statewide
Family Engagement Center

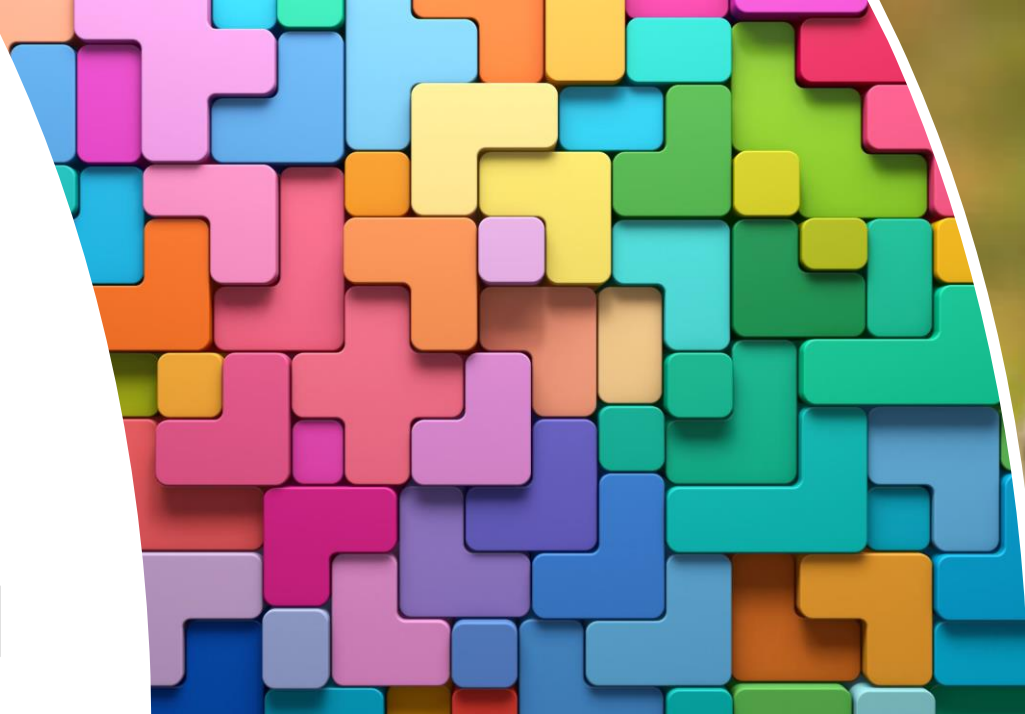
 **THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**
CENTER ON EDUCATION AND
TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT

Partnering with Families of Diverse Cultural and Linguistic Backgrounds

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slido



Who is a new American?

My Journey as a Bilingual/ Non- Native English speaker

Sharing the lived experiences of being a Bilingual/ Non-Native English speaker educator in the world of Education in a New Place

Learning Objectives

Understand different terms referred for non-English Speaking Families

Discover the roots of the Multilingual families

Visualize current status of the ELL students in US School system

Define Family-School Engagement

Best Practices in Engaging New American Families

What Can you do?

Who are “New American Families”?

- families that have recently immigrated to the country or are part of immigrant communities.
- families typically represent a diverse range of cultural backgrounds, languages, and traditions.
- may include immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers who have come to the United States for various reasons, such as seeking better economic opportunities, fleeing conflict or persecution, reuniting with family members, or pursuing educational goals.

Some Common Terminologies



Terminologies used in School system

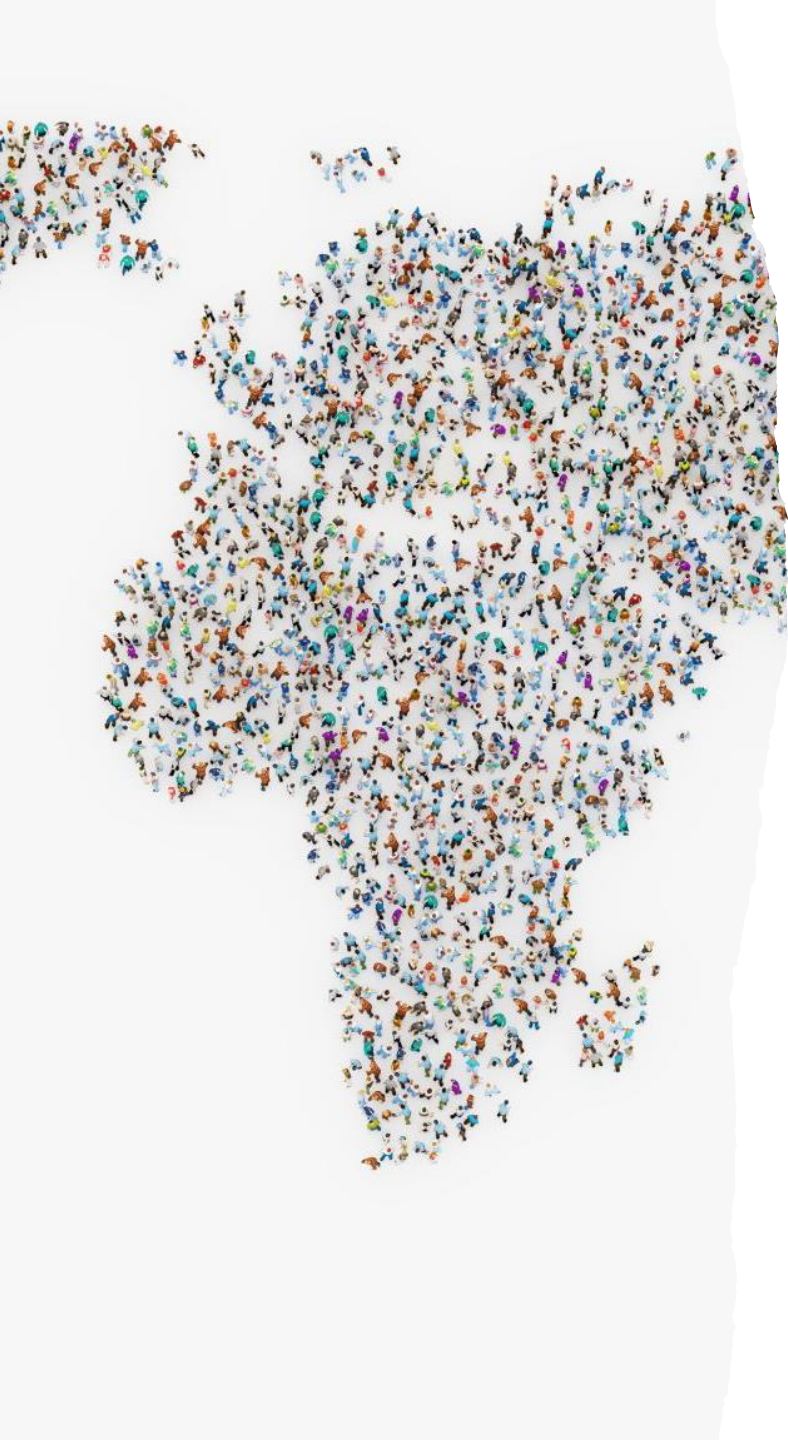


CHALLENGES NEW American FAMILIES EXPERIENCE ENGAGING WITH SCHOOLS

- **Cultural Differences**
 - Immigrant families often encounter significant cultural differences when they come to the U.S., requiring them to adapt to new societal norms and values
- **Language Barriers**
 - Language barriers often pose a challenge for immigrant families and communities
- **Lack of Familiarity with the Educational System**
- **Immigration Status Concerns**
- **Limited Support Networks/Resources**
 - Immigrant families are more likely than U.S. citizens to live in low-income or working-class neighborhoods, which limits their access to stable jobs, social welfare programs, and educational opportunities
- **Educational Inequities and Discrimination**
 - Immigrant families may encounter discrimination based on their ethnicity, nationality, or immigration status, may face educational inequities, including placement in lower-level classes or limited access to advanced courses
- **Trauma and Resettlement Challenges:**
 - immigrant families have experienced trauma in their home countries or during the migration process

What do you think are other challenges?

Either say or Chat?



Roots of Multilingual families in US School System

The roots of multilingual families in the United States school system can be traced back to a combination of historical, social, political, and migratory factors.

- **Indigenous Languages**
- **Colonial History:**
- **Immigration Waves**
- **20th & 21st Century Migration**
- **Bilingual Education Movement:**
- **Globalization and Economic Opportunities:**
- **Refugee Resettlement:**
- **Border Communities**
- **Diaspora Communities:**

Status of Multilingual Families In US education system

- About one-half of people worldwide are bilingual.
- Around 20% of American residents speak two or more languages.
- Approximately 5 million students in the United States are English Language Learners.
- At 14.7%, the largest percentage of ELLs comes from urban areas.
- Throughout all 50 states and the District of Columbia, 20% of K-12 students are enrolled in foreign language classes.
- ELs are a tremendously diverse group representing numerous languages, cultures, ethnicities, and nationalities, with Hispanic or Latino students being the majority and Spanish being the most commonly spoken language.
- In Ohio Spanish, Somali and Arabic are the top three foreign languages spoken by families of our students. ([Our Nation's English Learners \(ed.gov\)](#))

Engaging Multilingual Families in School

1. What is Family Engagement?

---School-family engagement, often also referred to as parent involvement or family-school partnerships, refers to the collaboration and interaction between schools and families to promote and support students' learning, development, and well-being. This engagement is based on the idea that students achieve better and are more successful when their families and schools work together.

2. Benefits of School-Family Engagement

- Improved student academic achievement and behavior.
- Positive school climate and increased teacher morale.
- Better understanding and mutual respect between families and school staff.
- Higher rates of student attendance and lower dropout rates.

Engaging
MULTILINGUAL
families will....

**Improve Academic Achievement &
Increased Attendance**

**Foster Relationship & Effective
Communication**

**Impart Shared Responsibility & Increase
sense of belongingness**

Cultural Enrichment

Leveraging Home Languages

Addressing Unique Needs

Building Trust in Community

Best practices for partnering with New American Families

- Make time to get to know the families
- Ensure that curricula are culturally responsive and rigorously implemented.
- Create welcoming and immigrant-friendly organizational cultures and environments.
- Share power with New American families.
- Inform and train educators about the needs of New American families.
- Strengthen the role of schools as community resources for New American families.
- Get to know and partner with community organizations.
- Stay informed about new policies changes that potentially impact New American families
- Mitigate language barriers

What roles do we have to Support New-American Families?

If you are School Leaders

- ✓ Ensure that all staff develop the cultural competencies to work with diverse cultural families.
- ✓ Provide professional development trainings for all school personnel.
- ✓ Invite new-American family members to serve in leadership positions on Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) or district parent advisory boards, or to serve as parent liaisons.
- ✓ Develop relationships and partner with local organizations that work with new American families
- ✓ Open space for them to host events at schools.
- ✓ Utilize community space outside school to host school events

As educator

- ✓ Develop intentional relationships with new-American families. Get to know families and students.
- ✓ Never make assumptions rather consult with them first and align on engagement strategies on what their needs are.
- ✓ Work with families to support student learning by showing them how they can support students' academic growth.
- ✓ Provide academic support for English language learners based on the evidence of how emerging bilinguals learn to read and write in English.
- ✓ Incorporate families' narratives and experiences into the curriculum.

As Policymakers

- ✓ Require aspiring educators to be trained in family engagement practices and working with diverse families, including immigrant
- ✓ Propose and support pro-immigrant legislation that will make immigrant families' lives easier.
- ✓ Any other suggestions????

Quick Check

I used to Think.....

And

Now I Think.....

Coming Soon

- **If you are**
 - **School Administrators**
 - **School District Leaders**
 - **School Social workers**
 - **School Counsellors**
 - **Or invested in education**

Please visit our website for the Research Briefs and other tools

[Ohio's Statewide Family Engagement Center \(osu.edu\)](https://osu.edu)



Q Q&A

Thank you !

Good schools, like good societies and good families, celebrate and cherish diversity... **Deborah Meier**



THANK YOU FOR WATCHING!

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Ohio Statewide
**Family
Engagement
Center**

—at The Ohio State University—



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